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# SILVER WINGS

“Train World Class Pilots”  
Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

Vol. 46, Issue 7

April 1, 2022

## BUDGET

(Continued from page 9)

roughly \$130 billion that we are investing in [research, development, test and evaluation] — our largest request ever — \$16.5 billion is dedicated to science and technology.”

The strategic concept looks to address diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility. The budget includes \$479 million to implement the recommendations of the Independent Review Commission on Sexual Assault in the Military.

The budget also calls on Congress to allow the services to retire or discontinue programs no longer needed. In the Navy, this calls for the retirement of some cruisers, littoral combat ships and a landing ship dock. In the Air Force, this calls for retiring A-10s, E-3 Sentry aircraft, E-8 JSTARS, KC-135s and C-130H.

The end strength of the services remains essentially unchanged at 2,122,900 active, Guard and reserve service members.

The Army is set at 998,500. This is down 3,000 on the active duty rolls from fiscal 2022. The Army National Guard is set at 336,000, and the Army Reserve at 189,500.

The Navy is at 404,000, down incrementally from fiscal 2022 level of 406,135. The Navy Reserve is set at 57,700.

The Marine Corps end strength goes up slightly from 209,606 to 210,000 with 33,000 in the Marine Corps Reserve.

The Air Force — including the Space Force — stays at 510,400.

By percentage, the Air Force department receives 30.3 percent of the budget with the Navy receiving 29.9 percent. The Army receives 22.9 percent and defense-wide is pegged at 16.9 percent.

## Come Help Us Downsize!

273 Artesian Fields Lane  
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April 1 & 2 • 8:00am  
Multi-family Garage Sale  
New & Used • Collectibles  
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## RENT-A-SPACE

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662-327-5656



A \$25.00 donation will be made to [www.woundedwarrioroutdoors.com](http://www.woundedwarrioroutdoors.com) on behalf of any CAFB Personnel who rents a storage space.



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## MENTAL HEALTH

**IS...**

- Important
- Something everyone has
- Intrinsicly linked to physical health
- On a continuum
- Worth making time for
- Part of being human
- Positive & negative
- Changeable
- Complex
- Real

**ISN'T...**

- A sign of weakness
- Shameful
- All in your mind
- Always something negative
- Something you decide to have
- Something to thing about only when it feels broken
- An interchangeable term with mental illness
- Something you can snap out of



Visit [www.ccsms.org/locations](http://www.ccsms.org/locations) for a location nearest you.

**If you are experiencing a mental health crisis now, call 866-866-6505**  
24 hours a day/365 days a year  
M-CeRT—MOBILE CRISIS EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Did you know we accept Medicaid, Medicare, Tricare, BCBS, ATENA, and most other private insurances?

**COMMUNITY COUNSELING SERVICES**

Mobile Crisis Services provided with funds awarded from the MS DMH. CCS is not a State Agency or a part of the MS DMH.



**Columbus AFB COVID-19 Information**

## COVID-19 General Info

The base is continually focusing to stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus and will persistently prioritize the safety of the Airmen, families and communities of Columbus.

Off-limit areas include any business or establishment that does not comply with Federal, State, and local COVID requirements.

### Social Gathering Limitations

- Kaye – 92 person limit
- Event Center/Club – 145 person limit
- Phillips Auditorium – 22 person limit
- Walker Center – 112 person limit



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Davis Donaldson. Five medics from the 14th Medical Group at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss., perform first responder actions at the Ready Eagle Exercise on March 11, 2022. The Ready Eagle Training focuses on emergency medical treatment, tactical combat casualty care, patient decontamination, patient tracking, resource tracking and bioenvironmental training.

## 14th MDG enhances readiness through Ready Eagle Exercise

Senior Airman Davis Donaldson  
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

After a week of preparation, training, and planning, the 14th Medical Group at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, performed an exercise called “Ready Eagle” on March 11, 2022,

aimed to strengthen the readiness of Air Force medics in hostile situations.

The Ready Eagle Exercise, comprised of over 80 medics from the 14th MDG, was designed to be a simulated CBRNE

See READY EAGLE EXERCISE, Page 3

## CHECK OUT COLUMBUS AFB ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Columbus AFB YouTube page



columbus\_afb



Columbus AFB Facebook page



[www.columbus.af.mil](http://www.columbus.af.mil)

# World Water Day: Groundwater – Making the Invisible Visible

Jennifer Richards  
14th Civil Engineer Squadron

Since 1993, the United Nations annually observes World Water Day on March 22nd. World Water Day is intended to raise awareness of the two billion people currently living without access to clean and safe water. Often taken for granted, water is our most precious resource, and although our planet is 70% covered in water, only less than 1% is considered viable drinking water.

2022's theme is "Groundwater – Making the Invisible Visible." The focus of the theme is to help bring awareness to the invisible resource that numerous communities rely on for potable water. As the name implies, groundwater is found underground and is stored in a geologic formations known as aquifers. We depend on

groundwater to supply drinking water, irrigation for food crops, and recharge water bodies for recreational use (lakes, rivers, etc.).

Precipitation is one of the main sources to replenish groundwater. As such, it is important to keep our stormwater assets clean. To raise awareness and help mitigate any potential pollution, Columbus Air Force Base is marking curb inlets around the installation that lead directly to waterbodies.

Please help us keep our groundwater resources clean by picking up your pet waste, throwing trash in the appropriate bins, checking your vehicles for leaks, and educating others on the importance of protecting our environment.

For questions or comments about protecting our water quality, please contact Ms. Jennifer Richards, 14th CES/CEIEC a jennifer.richards.7@us.af.mil or (662) 434-3130.



Courtesy photos

The 14th Civil Engineering Squadron environmental staff applying storm water protection signage.

## Security and policy review

Did you know that as a military member you must coordinate all information relating to speeches, presentations, academic papers, multimedia visual information materials and information proposed for release to a publicly accessible Worldwide Website, with exception of Air Force publications, through the 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office? For more information contact the 14th FTW/PA at (662) 434-7068.

## Silver Wings

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### Submission Deadline

The deadline for submitting copy for next week's SILVER WINGS is noon Monday. Articles may be dropped off at the public affairs office or e-mailed.

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*Submit all advertising to the Columbus, Miss., Commercial Dispatch advertising department one week prior to desired publication date. The advertising department can be reached at (662) 328-2424.*

## Air Force Readiness Programs

*(Editor's note: All activities are offered at the Airman & Family Readiness Center unless otherwise specified. For more information about any of the activities listed, call (662) 434-2790.)*

### Transition Assistance Program Workshop

The next "Senior" Transition Assistance Program (TAP) workshop is from 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Apr. 4-8 and includes seminars on: Transition, Military Occupational Code Crosswalk, Financial Planning, Health Benefits, Mississippi Department of Employment Security, Department of Veterans Affairs, Disabled TAP and Department of Labor. Preseparation counseling is required before attending, and recommended attendance is 12-24 months prior to separation/retirement. Spouses are encouraged to attend with their sponsor. To register or for more information, please call the TAP Manager at (662) 434-2631/2790.

### Wing Newcomers Orientation

The next Wing Newcomers Orientation will be held on Apr. 13 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. It begins at the Columbus Club and ends with a base tour. This event is mandatory for all newly arrived military and DoD civilian personnel. The event's foundation is the base's mobile App, so if you are registered, please locate and download the Columbus Air Force Base App from the App Store prior to attending. Pre-registration is required, so contact your unit CSS to be registered. For more information, please call the A&FRC Relocation Manager at (662) 434-2701/2790.

### Smooth Move Relocation Workshop

The next Smooth Move is from 10-11 a.m. Apr. 19 in the A&FRC. This workshop is highly recommended for first-time and over-seas relocating members. Get the very latest moving information straight from base-wide relocation assistance agencies. Learn what to expect before you move with information from Tri-Care, Housing, Military Pay, TMO, Medical Records and A&FRC. Be sure to ask any relocating questions you may have during this event. Pre-registration is required, so call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790 to register or for more information.

### Department of Labor Transition Vocational Track Workshop

The next DoL Transition Vocational Track Workshop is from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. May 16-17 and will be held in the A&FRC. This workshop helps members identify skills, increase awareness of training and credentialing programs, and develop an action plan to achieve career goals. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

### Heart Link

The next Heart Link / Spouse Welcome is from 8:30 a.m.-noon Apr. 28. This half-day program is open to all spouses of active duty

## C-130 Fly-In



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jessica Haynie

**Columbus Air Force Base members observe a C-130J Super Hercules from Pope AFB, North Carolina on March 14, 2022, at Columbus AFB, Miss. Using its aft loading ramp and door, the C-130 can accommodate a wide variety of oversized cargo, including everything from utility helicopters and six-wheeled armored vehicles to standard palletized cargo and military personnel.**

military members assigned to Columbus AFB. Attendees will receive information about life in the Air Force, in the local area and at Columbus AFB from local subject matter experts including spouse leaders. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

### Federal USA Jobs Workshop

The next Federal USA Jobs workshop is from 9-10:30 a.m. May 11. This is a workshop on writing resumes, applications, and job search using the USAJobs website. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

### Entrepreneurship Track Transition Workshop

The next Entrepreneurship Track Transition workshop will be held June 9-10 from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. This workshop is conducted by the Small Business Administration for veterans and all base personnel interested starting up and operating their own business. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

### Bundles for Babies

The next Bundles for Babies workshop is from 1-3:30 p.m. June 16. This program is designed for active duty AF members and/or their spouses who are pregnant or have a child 4 months old or less. Attendees will learn about finances, labor and delivery, and infant care. A \$50 gift card sponsored by the Air Force Aid Society will be provided for each qualifying child. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at

(662) 434-2790.

### EFMP-FS

Exceptional Family Members Program-Family Support, EFMP-FS, establishes, implements and maintains the FS (community support) entity of the Air Force EFMP in coordination with the Medical & Assignments components by enhancing the quality of life of special needs family members. Feel free to contact (662) 434-3323/2790 for any questions related to EFMP or for one-on-one assistance. We can assess your needs and make the proper community referral for you and your family!

### Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the A&FRC. We have volunteer opportunities located across the base for one-time events, special events or on a continual basis. Volunteers are needed on base at the Youth Center, Child Development Center, Library, Medical Clinic, Chapel, Airman's Attic, Thrift Store, the Retiree Activities Office and many other locations. For more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

### Installation Voting Assistance Office

A&FRC houses the Voting Assistance Office (VAO) which is open Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and closed weekends/holidays. The VAO offers voting assistance including voter registration, absentee ballot requests and voting, change of address, and provides answers for other general voting questions to uniformed service members, their family members and civilians with access to A&FRC. Assistance includes but

is not limited to aid in preparing and submitting Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) SF-76, Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) SF-186 and National Mail Voter Registration Form (NVRF). The VAO also leads and trains all installation unit voting assistance officers. For more information, please contact the Installation VAO at (662) 434-2701/2790 or e-mail: vote.columbus@us.af.mil.

### Discovery Resource Center

The Columbus A&FRC has computers with internet access available for job searches, assessments, resumes, cover letters, state and federal applications and companies' employment information. A printer and fax machine is available. A lending library of books, DVDs and periodicals on transition and EFMP topics are available for check out. These resources are available on a first-come-first-serve basis.

### Pre- and Post-Deployment Tour Briefing

These briefings are mandatory for active duty personnel who are either deploying or returning from deployment or a remote tour. Please contact A&FRC at (662) 434-2794/2790 to schedule a briefing and/or for more information.

### Pre-Separation Counseling

This counseling is a mandatory briefing for personnel separating or retiring, and is to be completed at least 90 days prior to separation. It may be completed up to 12 months prior to separation or 24 months prior to retirement. Please contact A&FRC at (662) 434-2790 to schedule a counseling session and/or for more information.

### Employment Workshop

An employment workshop on local and base employment opportunities is held every Wednesday, 1-2 p.m. This program provides military families and DoD civilian members individual assessment and career counseling to assist with local employment, preparation for future endeavors via education, job search, or self-owned business objectives in the local area. For more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

## Chapel Schedule

Chapel services are now available.

Catholic: 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Sundays

Daily Mass: 11 a.m. Tuesday- Friday

Protestant: 9:30 a.m. on Sundays

As we gather for services there is a 50 person limit inside the chapel. Thank you all for your help during this time and we are looking forward to seeing you all soon!

### Columbus Air Force Base Information and Events

Join our Facebook page at Columbus AFB Living, Instagram at columbus\_afb\_living, or visit our website at ColumbusAFBliving.com to keep up to date with all the great events happening around base. Check out the calendar on the website for important Airman and Family Readiness Center events. For more information, contact (662) 434-2337.

### Get Connected with Your Base App!

As a way to connect people together, Columbus Air Force Base launched a new app to connect Airmen and families to the mission and community! The app is available on all app stores and can be found by searching 'Columbus Air Force Base'.

### The Print Shop

The Print Shop is located in The Commons, building 715, room 128. It is in the back of the Commons and can be accessed either from the main entrance or from the parking lot directly behind the base Chapel. Services include large format printing, mounting, laminating, color and black/white copying, binding, and much more. For a quote call (662) 434-2337 or email 14FSS-Columbus@gmail.com.

### Youth Program's After School Care

The Youth Center offers After School Care for ages 5-12. The center provides games, sports, arts & crafts, educational enrichment, social skills, leadership building and much more. Request care at MilitaryChildCare.com or call (662) 434-2504 for more information.

### T-Ball and Coach Pitch Registration at the Youth Center

The registration period for the T-Ball and Coach Pitch Season at the Youth Center will be April 4-15. The registration fee will be \$35 for ages 3-4, and \$40 for ages 5-8. Save \$5 on registration fees by signing up by April 8th. Volunteer coaches are also needed. All games will be played on base. Sports physicals are required for each child and must be turned in to the Youth Center by April 19. The season will begin in mid-May. For more information, call (662) 434-2504.

### Summer Camp Registration at the Youth Center

Registration for 2022 School Age Care Summer Camp for ages 5-12 will open on April 18. The camp will consist of 10 individual weeks of care at the Youth Center, and parents will need to register for each week at MilitaryChildCare.com. Activities at the camp will include but are not limited to sports, health and wellness instruction, field trips, S.T.E.M. learning, arts and crafts, and leadership exercises. For more information, call (662) 434-2504.

### Month of the Military Child

April is Month of the Military Child, and Child and Youth Programs will hold an array of events and programs to celebrate.

The Keystone Club at the Youth Center will sponsor a special breakfast for the Military children at Caledonia Elementary School on April 5 at 8:30 a.m. Parents are invited to join. For more information, call (662) 434-2504.

April 5th is Homeschool Day Out for ages 5-18 at the Youth Center from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Homeschoolers are invited to bring their own lunch and enjoy a dodgeball tournament and a basketball free throw competition. For more information, call (662) 434-2792 or email slo2@us.af.mil.

Children can come to the Youth Center on April 6 at 3 p.m. to enjoy free purple ice cream floats provided by Top 3. For more information, call (662) 434-2792 or email slo2@us.af.mil.

The Spring Fling base-wide free family event will be on April 9 at Freedom Park from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. There will be Easter egg hunts, a petting zoo featuring a camel and a kangaroo, photos with the Easter Bunny, face painting and balloon animals, and more. For more information, call (662) 434-2504.



**April 9**  
1000-1300

**FREE FAMILY FUN!**

**SPRING FLING**  
At Freedom Park

FREE Event Hosted by Columbus AFB Youth Programs

EASTER EGG HUNT		ACTIVITIES
EFMP Families.....	1000	• Petting Zoo featuring a camel & a kangaroo
Ages 0-2.....	1030	• Photos with the Easter Bunny
Ages 3-5.....	1100	• Face Painting
Ages 6-8.....	1130	• Balloon Animals
Ages 9+ & latecomers.....	1200	• & More!

**FREE LUNCH FROM CHICK-FIL-A!**

**FREE ICE CREAM FROM MILLER'S HOMEMADE SCOOPS!**

Food and Easter Eggs will be first come first serve.

for more info, call 434-2504

**FORCE**

Children are encouraged to create a chalk masterpiece on the sidewalks outside the Hunt Housing Office and the Youth Center for the Sidewalk Chalk Art Contest on April 13. Judging will take place from 2:30-4:30 p.m. and 1st-3rd place will win a prize. For more information, call (662) 434-2792 or email slo2@us.af.mil.

There will be a "Superheroes Wear Purple" themed Masquerade dance on April 15 from 5-7 p.m. at the AFRC for CDC and SAC members. Parents and children are invited to enjoy a family dance to celebrate resilient Military youth. This will be a formal event, but kids may dress up as their favorite superheroes. There will be refreshments, music, and photo ops. For more information, call (662) 434-2504.

Pack a lunch and bring the family out for Family Day at Lake Lowndes State Park on April 16 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Military members and their families will be granted free park entrance, and entry for non-Military guests will be \$2 per person. Activities will include canoeing, fishing, and fun in the sun if the weather permits. A light snack will also be provided. A fishing license is required for participants over the age of 16. For more information, call (662) 434-2792 or email slo2@us.af.mil.

Everyone is invited to wear purple on April 20 to celebrate Purple Up Day. There will also be a Purple Up Parade on April 20 through base housing that will start at 3:30 p.m. at the Hunt Housing Office. For more information, call (662) 434-2792 or email slo2@us.af.mil.

Children are encouraged to decorate their bikes for the Rollin' Purple Bike Decorating Contest on April 27. Participants will meet at the Hunt Housing Office at 3 p.m. for a group bike ride and contest judging. The best decorated bike will win a prize. Helmets are required. For more information call (662) 434-2792 or email slo2@us.af.mil.

The Rockin' the Block Party base-wide community event will take place on April 29 at Venture 360 from 5-7 p.m. The event will feature inflatable jumpers and games, music, Touch-A-Truck with the CE Squadron, a video game truck, and more. For more

information, call (662) 434-2504.

Teens ages 13-18 are invited to attend the Operation Megaphone Lock-In at the Youth Center on April 29 from 6-11 p.m. Operation Megaphone is an Air Force-wide program designed "by teens, for teens" to connect and build partnerships, raise awareness, and reach out to teens in the CAFB community. The cost to attend is \$20 for CYP members, and \$25 for non-members. There will be games, food, and prizes. For more information, call (662) 434-2504.

### Library

The Library, located in The Blaze Commons, is open for in-house customers Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and closed Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. For everyone's safety, masks are required for patrons ages 3 and up and parents must remain with their children at all times.

The Library will host Storytime at Freedom Park every Tuesday in April at 10 a.m. Participants are asked to bring their own blanket or towel to sit on. In the event of rain, StoryTime will be in the Commons. For more information, call (662) 434-2516.

See all of the Library's activities visit their Facebook page: @ColumbusAirForceBaseLibrary.

### Fitness Center

The Columbus AFB Fitness Center and the Alpha Warrior tent is open Monday-Friday 5:00 a.m.-9 p.m. and on Saturday 8 a.m.-6 p.m. It is open on Sunday for 24/7 Access members only (CAC must be registered at the front desk prior to use).

The Fitness Center is now serving all DoD cardholders and eligible contractors during normal hours of operation. 24/7 access is available to not only Active Duty patrons, but also any DoD cardholder such as dependents, retirees, and civilian employees. CAC must be registered at the front desk.

Also, the locker rooms and showers are once again available. Please note there will 100% ID card check, limited rental equipment available, and other risk mitigation plans still apply. For more information, call the Fitness Center at (662) 434-2772.

Also, the basketball and racquetball courts are now available! Check-in at the front desk required.

### Strength and Endurance Competition

The Fitness Center will host a Strength and Endurance Competition on April 19 at 9 a.m. The competition will consist of 10 events/work out stations. Sign up by April 12 by visiting sign-up-genius.com/go/strength-endurance. Call (662) 434-2772 for more information.

### Arts & Crafts

Arts & Crafts is ready to serve your framing, engraving, and wood working needs, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Call (662) 434-7856 for assistance.

### Auto Hobby Shop

The Auto Hobby Shop located by Arts & Crafts is open on Fridays, 4-8 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Lifts are \$10 per hour of use, and bays are \$5 per hour of use. Cash only. Auto Hobby is now offering free fluid level check, free tire pressure check and fill, and used oil collection. Call (662) 434-7836 for more information.

### Outdoor Recreation

Outdoor Recreation will be closed April 3-10 and will reopen for normal operations on April 11.

Outdoor Recreation's (ODR) normal hours are Monday, Thursday, and Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. (closed Tuesday, Wednesday, and Sunday). ODR offers all sorts of rental for the water, camping, and much more! Call ODR at (662) 434-2505 for all of your outdoor activities.

### READY EAGLE EXERCISE

(Continued from page 1)

(Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosives) attack and medical response training environment.

Ready Eagle took place at two locations to maximize efficiency. First response teams cared for patients at the Base's Fitness Center and after receiving first aid, patients were transferred to the 14th MDG for decontamination and further care.

Booz Allen Hamilton Inc., a business contracted through the Air Force's Medical Readiness Agency, led the training and exercise. Matthew Schilling, BAH Inc. associate and project lead for Ready Eagle, explained the importance of the training.

"One of the things we started off with was telling the Medical Group to expect the unexpected during the exercise," he said. "You never know what you're going to have to respond to, to save lives."

Schilling went further into specific events throughout history that further emphasize the importance of being prepared for anything. He gave examples of the Ramstein air show disaster in 1988, the Las Vegas shooting in 2017, and other examples at facilities across the country.

Beginning on March 5, Schilling and his team began instructing 14th MDG specialists for the exercise to get the team ready for the final exercise on March 11.

"The training is focused on installation



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Davis Donaldson

**A medic from the 14th Medical Group at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss., tightens a tourniquet on a volunteer at an exercise on March 11, 2022. A tourniquet is a constricting or compressing device used to control venous and arterial circulation to an extremity for a period of time.**

all-hazards medical response teams," Schilling said. "Specifically on skills proficiency for medical response, as well as team integration. We do everything from emergency medical treatment, tactical combat casualty care, patient decontamination, patient tracking, resource tracking, bioenvironmental, all of it, throughout the whole scope of things."

After, Schilling gave comments on how the exercise went.

"It went excellent," he said. "The 14th MDG did very well working as a team to save



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jessica Haynie

**Medics from the 14th Medical Group at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss., carry a volunteer on a stretcher at an exercise on March 11, 2022. While decontaminating and isolating patients, medics are required to wear CBRNE protective gear.**

lives. They were also able to identify areas of improvement during their all-hazards medical response."

Lt. Col. Kenneth Rosenblum, 14th MDG Healthcare Operations Squadron commander, explained his perspective on the significance of Ready Eagle.

"In our day-to-day jobs at the clinic, we're not dealing with trauma and it's not an experience our airmen get to have," he said. "We have a dual role as a healthcare organization. One is to provide healthcare to other benefi-

ciaries and the other is to support the wing's mission and installation in disasters."

Along with being prepared for emergencies at their home installation, Ready Eagle allows airmen to become more comfortable in contingency operations, Rosenblum said.

"We frequently deployed medics out of here and these types of exercises give them the skills necessary for operations down-range," he said. "Whatever comes our way, we will be able to respond."



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Davis Donaldson

**Two medics from the 14th Medical Group at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss., apply pressure to a simulated wound at an exercise on March 11, 2022. Prosthetic makeup was applied to the volunteers before the exercise began to make the exercise as real as possible.**



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jessica Haynie

**A medic from the 14th Medical Group at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss., props open a stretcher at a the Ready Eagle Exercise on March 11, 2022. Patients at the 14th MDG were scanned at a CBRNE decontamination zone.**



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jessica Haynie

**Medics from the 14th Medical Group at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss., care for a patient on March 11, 2022. The Ready Eagle Exercise was an accumulation of training from March 5-11.**

## Brigadier General Adams receives the President's Volunteer Lifetime Award

**Staff Sgt. Elora J. McCutcheon**  
Secretary of the Air Force  
Public Affairs

ARLINGTON, Va. — Brig. Gen. Terrence A. Adams, Concepts and Strategy Air Force Futures Military deputy director, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, was awarded the President Joseph R. Biden's Lifetime Achievement Award during a ceremony in Washington, D.C., March 20.

Adams was nominated by the Lowcountry Rice Culture Project, a Charleston, South Carolina-based clearinghouse and partnership builder for activities that explore, reveal, and reclaim the shared cultural inheritance of the Southeastern Lowcountry rice industry as a basis for promoting community development and advancing the cause of human dignity.

Dr. Kim Cliett Long, Lowcountry Rice Culture Project executive director, presented the award to Adams and three other honorees during the ceremony.

"The Lowcountry Rice Culture Project is honored to have played a part in recommending these four highly esteemed individuals for presidential recognition of their volunteer service," she said. "Their collective commitment and sincerity to public service are highly commendable."

Presented to those who have completed more than 4,000 hours of community service, the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award was earned by Adams for championing STEM and cybersecurity in the youth community.



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Elora J. McCutcheon

**Brig. Gen. Terrence A. Adams, Concepts and Strategy Air Force Futures Military deputy director, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, displays the President Joseph R. Biden Lifetime Achievement Award he received during a ceremony in Washington, D.C., March 20, 2022. Adams earned the award for championing STEM and cybersecurity in the youth community.**

Adams explained his desire to serve the community ignited when he was a student and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity member at Auburn University in 1994. During the last five years, he has directed his efforts specifically toward establishing the path for future generations who possibly will fill increasing STEM and cybersecurity jobs.

"I believe the nation needs more young individuals in cyber and STEM," Adams expressed. "I think it is important we develop a nation focused on career fields of the future."

Beyond his contributions to advance diversity and inclusion within the Department of the Air Force, Adams has invested time

*"I believe the nation needs more young individuals in cyber and STEM," Adams expressed. "I think it is important we develop a nation focused on career fields of the future."*

into several organizations and programs that aim to inspire future generations to become more involved in cyber and STEM. These include CyberUP, Cyber Patriot, Computer Science for All, and Legacy Flight Academy. His volunteer service extends beyond local efforts and impacts communities nationwide.

Adams discussed his goal to create an infrastructure for future servicemembers — one where children can attend school, particularly in under-represented areas, and explore career paths in cyber and STEM.

"I believe we have a responsibility to help shape America by making a connection to the community and ensuring the nation has what it needs in the next 40, 50 years," he stated. "[My work] is a long-term strategic plan to get the nation to understand the value of STEM and cyber security for our nation's defense."



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Elora J. McCutcheon

**Brig. Gen. Terrence A. Adams, Concepts and Strategy Air Force Futures Military deputy director, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, displays the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award coin he received during a ceremony in Washington, D.C., March 20, 2022. Adams, a champion for STEM and cyber in the youth community, earned the award for completing more than 4,000 hours of volunteer service.**



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Elora J. McCutcheon

**U.S. Air Force Honor Guardsmen stand ready to perform before an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C., March 20, 2022. The ceremony was in honor of four Americans who earned the President Joseph R. Biden Lifetime Achievement Award for their volunteer service.**



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Elora J. McCutcheon

**Brig. Gen. Terrence A. Adams, Military Concepts and Strategy Air Force Futures Military deputy director, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, admires the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award coin he received during a ceremony in Washington, D.C., March 20, 2022. The award is presented to those who have completed more than 4,000 hours of community service.**

## Fiscal 2023 budget funds military for today, future

**Jim Garamone**  
DOD News

President Joe Biden's \$773 billion fiscal year 2023 Defense Budget Request funds the department for today's security environment and positions DOD to maintain its competitive advantage in the years ahead, Deputy Secretary of Defense Kathleen H. Hicks said today.

Hicks, along with Navy Adm. Christopher W. Grady, the vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, unveiled the budget that is built on the tenets of the new National Defense Strategy. That strategy recognizes Russia as a concern — especially since Russia's invasion of Ukraine — but still regards China as America's pacing threat.

The budget is roughly an 8.1 percent increase over fiscal year 2022. "These investments are as vital as ever, as we face a myriad of challenges," Hicks said at a Pentagon press conference.

Hicks said the people of Ukraine "are foremost on our minds" as they confront the Russian invasion of their country. "Even as we confront Russia's malign activities, the defense strategy describes how the department will act urgently to sustain and strengthen deterrence with the [Peoples Republic of China] as our most consequential strategic competitor and pacing challenge. The PRC has the military, economic and technological potential to challenge the international system and our interests within it."

The strategy does not discount other threats and she specifically cited Iran, North Korea and threats from violent extremists.

The United States fights with a joint force that provides amazing combat effectiveness and lethality. "With the joint warfighting concept and a new strategic approach to setting requirements, our joint force has set out to achieve expanded maneuvers in all domains, building new capabilities and leveraging technologies to achieve overmatch against any potential adversary," Grady said.

"The American people can be confident that this year's budget request ... ensures the joint force remains the most lethal and capable military on the planet. It will modernize, and it will transform the force needed to win in the 2030s and beyond."

Service members and civilians would receive a 4.6 percent pay raise if Congress approves this budget, Hicks said. This is the largest pay raise in 20 years. The budget also calls for investing in child care including fee assistance, new construction and sustainment.



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Brittany Chase, DOD

**Deputy Secretary of Defense Dr. Kathleen H. Hicks and Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Navy Adm. Christopher W. Grady deliver opening remarks on the President's Fiscal Year 2023 Defense Budget, the Pentagon, March 28, 2022.**

The request also calls for at least a \$15 per hour minimum wage for everyone in the federal workforce. The majority of those affected by this last are in the child-care workforce.

The budget request also asks for \$55.8 billion for military health care and \$9.2 billion for family support — including commissaries, DOD Education Activity schools, youth programs and morale, welfare and recreation programs.

Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III has spoken at length about "integrated deterrence" being one of the key concepts of the new strategy. Two others are campaigning and building enduring advantages.

Integrated deterrence is essentially bringing to bear all aspects of defense and the larger U.S. government. It also calls for working closely with allies and partners around the world. The concept needs combat-credible forces and a safe, secure and effective nuclear deterrent.

The fiscal 2023 budget calls for \$56.5 billion for air power. The money is focused on F-35 fifth-generation joint strike fighters, F-15EX — a mix of fourth-generation aircraft with fifth-generation avionics, the B-21 Raider stealth bomber, more air mobility aircraft, KC-46 tankers and various unmanned aircraft systems.

The budget stressed integrated defense with \$40.8 billion for construction of nine battle force fleet ships. The funding includes

incremental funding for construction of Ford-class aircraft carriers, and two Columbia-class ballistic missile submarines.

A total of \$12.6 billion is dedicated to modernization of Army and Marine Corps combat equipment including armored multi-purpose vehicles, the amphibious combat vehicle and the optionally manned fighting vehicle.

Another part of integrated deterrence is the recapitalization of the nuclear triad. The budget request is for \$34.4 billion. This includes upgrades to weapons systems and the nuclear command, control and communications system.

Hypersonic weapons are scheduled to be fielded under this budget request with \$7.2 billion across the services. This includes a hypersonic missile battery by fiscal 2023, hypersonic missiles aboard Navy ships by fiscal 2025 and hypersonic cruise missiles by fiscal 2027.

Another \$24.7 billion goes to missile defeat and defense initiatives, including \$892 million for the defense of Guam from Chinese missiles.

Cyberspace remains a contested domain and the budget contains \$11.2 billion for cyberspace activities including adding five more Cyber Mission Force Teams and "operationalizing" the department's Zero Trust Architecture.

Space is the ultimate high ground and the budget calls for \$27.6 billion for everything

from detecting missile launches to global positioning satellites to "hardening" satellite communications.

Another concept in the strategy is called campaigning. "Our competitors are increasingly undertaking activities designed to erode U.S. deterrence and advance their own interests via gray zone activities," Hicks said. "We, in turn, will operate forces, synchronize broader department efforts and gain advantage on our terms by tying together the breadth of U.S. and allied and partner defense activities through campaigning."

Central to campaigning is ensuring that the joint force is ready now, across the full battlespace competitors can present, she said.

DOD will be able to respond to threats anywhere in the world, but "the department will focus our campaigning efforts in the Indo-Pacific and Europe," Hicks said. The Pacific deterrence initiative along with other efforts are the basis for efforts in that region.

DOD will invest in enhancing its comparative military advantage, promote the military posture, provide for resilient logistics and increased cooperation with regional allies and partners.

In Europe, the budget will support U.S. European Command "and deepen our iron-clad commitment to NATO," she said. "We will optimize the responsiveness of the joint force, provide assistance to Kyiv through the Ukraine security assistance initiative, and bolster security cooperation programs."

The campaigning concept is tied to joint force readiness. Officials said the campaigning aspect receives \$134.7 billion in the fiscal 2023 request. The Army would receive \$29.4 billion under this request, the Navy \$47.4 billion, the Air Force \$35.5 billion, the Marine Corps \$4.1 billion and the Space Force, \$3 billion. U.S. Special Operations Command is slated to receive \$9.7 billion of this pot of money and other joint requirements would consume \$5.6 billion.

Building enduring advantages aspect of the National Defense Strategy comes down to people, Grady said. DOD must grow its talent. It must build resilience and force readiness and it must ensure accountable leadership. The 4.6 percent pay raise for both military and civilian members of DOD. It is the largest civilian pay raise in more than a decade.

"Building enduring advantages also means that the department must continue to innovate and modernize," Hicks said. "Of the

# BLAZE Hangar Tails: F-35A

## Mission

The F-35A is the U.S. Air Force's latest fifth-generation fighter. It will replace the U.S. Air Force's aging fleet of F-16 Fighting Falcons and A-10 Thunderbolt II's, which have been the primary fighter aircraft for more than 20 years, and bring with it an enhanced capability to survive in the advanced threat environment in which it was designed to operate. With its aerodynamic performance and advanced integrated avionics, the F-35A will provide next-generation stealth, enhanced situational awareness, and reduced vulnerability for the United States and allied nations.

## Features

The conventional takeoff and landing (CTOL) F-35A gives the U.S. Air Force and allies the power to dominate the skies – anytime, anywhere. The F-35A is an agile, versatile, high-performance, 9g capable multirole fighter that combines stealth, sensor fusion, and unprecedented situational awareness.

The F-35A's advanced sensor package is designed to gather, fuse and distribute more information than any fighter in history, giving operators a decisive advantage over all adversaries. Its processing power, open architecture, sophisticated

sensors, information fusion and flexible communication links make the F-35 an indispensable tool in future homeland defense, Joint and Coalition irregular warfare and major combat operations.

The F-35's electronic sensors include the Electro-Optical Distributed Aperture System (DAS). This system provides pilots with situational awareness in a sphere around the aircraft for enhanced missile warning, aircraft warning, and day/night pilot vision. Additionally, the aircraft is equipped with the Electro-Optical Targeting System (EOTS). The internally mounted EOTS provides extended range detection and precision targeting against ground targets, plus long range detection of air-to-air threats.

The F-35's helmet mounted display system is the most advanced system of its kind. All the intelligence and targeting information an F-35 pilot needs to complete the mission is displayed on the helmet's visor.

The F-35's engine produces 43,000 lbs of thrust and consists of a 3-stage fan, a 6-stage compressor, an annular combustor, a single stage high-pressure turbine, and a 2 stage low-pressure turbine.

The F-35 is designed to provide the pilot with unsurpassed situational awareness, positive target identification and pre-

cision strike in all weather conditions. Mission systems integration and outstanding over-the-nose visibility features are designed to dramatically enhance pilot performance.

## Background

The F-35 is designed to replace aging fighter inventories including U.S. Air Force F-16s and A-10s, U.S. Navy F/A-18s, U.S. Marine Corps AV-8B Harriers and F/A-18s, and U.K. Harrier GR.7s and Sea Harriers. With stealth and a host of next-generation technologies, the F-35 will be far and away the world's most advanced multi-role fighter. There exists an aging fleet of tactical aircraft worldwide. The F-35 is intended to solve that problem.

On October 26, 2001, Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Edward C. "Pete" Aldridge Jr. announced the decision to proceed with the Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) program. This approval advanced the program to the System Development and Demonstration (SDD) phase. The Secretary of the Air Force James G. Roche announced the selection of Lockheed Martin teamed with Northrop Grumman and BAE to develop and then produce the JSF aircraft.



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Kevin Tanenbaum/Released  
An F-22 Raptor fighter jet, assigned to the 433rd Weapons Squadron, at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., flies over the Nevada Test and Training Range, July 10, 2017. The United States Air Force Weapons School teaches graduate-level instructor courses that provide the world's most advanced training in weapons and tactics employment to officers of the combat air forces and mobility air forces.



U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Joshua C. Allmaras  
An F-35A Lightning II from the 4th Fighter Squadron, Hill Air Force Base, Utah takes off from the Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho Oct. 16, 2017. The take-off marked the first time an F-35 has taken off from Gowen Field.

# New training simulator heads to Columbus

**Second Lieutenant Peyton Craven**  
14th Flying Training Wing  
Public Affairs

Columbus AFB personnel were treated to a sneak peek experience with Boeing's newest training aircraft simulator at the Air Force Association's Warfare Symposium in Orlando, Florida March 4th, 2022.

The symposium is a significant professional development event for the U.S. Air Force and Space Force and focuses on the critical concerns and challenges of joint warfare across the diverse areas of responsibility for the Department of Defense. Attendees received briefings and development seminars from Air and Space Force senior leaders, as well as defense industry partners. A technology expo that occurred in conjunction with the symposium highlighted technological innovations by defense industry partners.

Boeing was a featured partner at the expo showcasing their new T-7A aircraft simulator. The T-7A is the eventual successor to the T-38 aircraft that is currently used to train student pilots on the fundamentals of fighter tactics. Columbus AFB is primed to be one of the first Undergraduate Pilot Training base that receives the T-7A.

Chief Master Sergeant Christopher Ot-



U.S. Air Force Photo by Second Lieutenant Peyton Craven  
Attendees from the 14th Flying Training Wing pose for a photo, March 4, 2022, at the AFA Warfare Symposium, Orlando, Florida. The team spent two days receiving advice from senior leaders to help enhance their professional development.

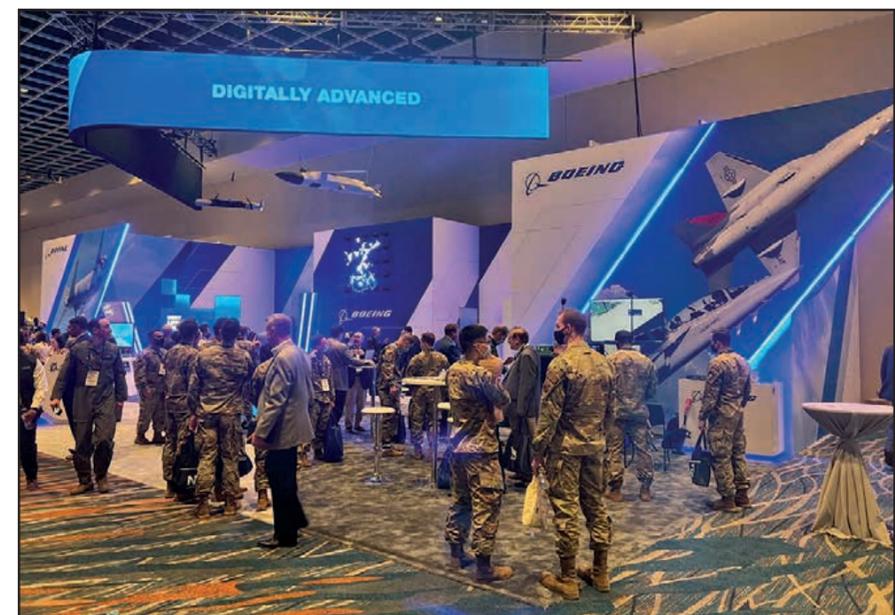
tenness, 14th Operations Group senior enlisted leader, spoke on the evolving role of training simulators like the one featured at

the Warfare Symposium.

"As the new simulators come on, it just further prepares [student pilots] for 5th-gen



U.S. Air Force photo by 2nd Lieutenant Peyton Craven  
U.S Air Force 1st Lieutenant Justin Treinish, 50th Flying Training Squadron T-38 Instructor Pilot, flies in the T-7A flight simulator, March 3, 2022, at the AFA Warfare Symposium in Orlando, Florida.



U.S. Air Force photo by 2nd Lieutenant Craven  
Attendees from the AFA Warfare Symposium experience Boeing's technology expo exhibit, March 3, 2022 in Orlando, Florida. The technology expo held over 30 exhibits from defense industry partners.

fighters as we continue to train world class pilots", Ottenwess said.

The 14th Operations Group conducts all flight operations at Columbus AFB and will be responsible for fielding the new simulator when it officially arrives to the base for training.

"These simulators are incredibly important to pilot training because that's where pilots learn the basics of flight while avoiding wear and tear on the actual aircraft", Ottenwess said.

Columbus AFB Airmen that attended the expo were given a chance to experience the new Boeing T-7A flight simulator.

"The VR headset quality is getting much better. This is more accurate to what the students will actually see in the cockpit," 1st Lieutenant Justin Treinish, a T-38 instructor pilot assigned to the 50th Flying Training Squadron said. "The gloves and hand tracking features make it feel more like the actual jet."

Boeing's next stop with the simulator will be Columbus AFB during the 2022 Wings Over Columbus Airshow and STEM Expo. Attendees of the airshow and STEM expo will have the opportunity to get hands-on with the simulator and get a sneak peek at the future of pilot training in the Air Force.

Visit [www.columbus.af.mil](http://www.columbus.af.mil) to learn about Columbus AFB agencies and other important information.

# USAF Academy superintendent congratulates Class 22-07



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jessica Haynie

U.S. Air Force Lt. General Richard M. Clark, USAF Academy superintendent, speaks at the graduation ceremony for Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 22-07 on March 25, 2022, at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. Clark, a command pilot, graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1986 and since then, has obtained over 4,200 flight hours, 400 combat hours and eleven major awards and decorations.

## Airman 1st Class Jessica Haynie

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 22-07, consisting of 30 officers, graduated, March 25, 2022 on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Richard M. Clark, USAF Academy superintendent, delivered the graduation speech.

Clark, a command pilot, graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1986 and since then, has obtained over 4,200 flight hours, 400 combat hours and eleven major awards and decorations.

“It is always going to be challenging,” said Clark. “You have never arrived, you are always working, trying to get better, trying to elevate your performance. So continue to keep that mindset of learning and working and getting better every day.”

Over the span of the 52-week training program, each student obtained nearly 200 flying hours in the T-6A Texan II and T-1A Jayhawk or T-38C Talon.

Class 22-07 had three distinguished graduates, 1st Lt. Alex Hsia, 1st Lt. Logan Stephens and 1st Lt. Trevor Simpson. The officers earned the award for outstanding performance in academics, officer qualities, and flying abilities.

“Always remember it’s about something bigger than yourself. It’s about a commitment to a higher purpose,” said Clark. “What I am asking you to do is use your skills to commit to something bigger than yourself.”

The newly rated pilots closed the first chapter of training and will enter a specialized track of training-specific to their respective aircraft.

*“Always remember it’s about something bigger than yourself. It’s about a commitment to a higher purpose,” said Clark. “What I am asking you to do is use your skills to commit to something bigger than yourself.”*



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jessica Haynie

Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 22-07 stands at attention during their graduation ceremony on March 25, 2022, at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. Over the span of the 52-week training program, each student obtained nearly 200 flying hours in the T-6A Texan II and T-1A Jayhawk or T-38C Talon.

